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ARTICLE 2

RELATING TO STATE FUNDS

SECTION 1. Sections 21-28.10-8 and 21-28.10-10 of the General Laws in Chapter 21-28.10 entitled “Opioid Stewardship Act” are hereby amended to read as follows:

21-28.10-8. Departmental annual reporting.

By January of each calendar year, the department of behavioral healthcare, developmental disabilities and hospitals (BHDDH), the executive office of health and human services (EOHHS), the department of children, youth and families (DCYF), the Rhode Island department of education (RIDE), the Rhode Island office of veterans' services, the department of corrections (DOC), ~~and~~ the department of labor and training (DLT), and any other department or agency receiving opioid stewardship funds shall report annually to the governor, the speaker of the house, and the senate president which programs in their respective departments were funded using monies from the opioid stewardship fund and the total amount of funds spent on each program.

21-28.10-10. Creation of opioid stewardship fund.

(a) There is hereby established, in the custody of the department, a restricted-receipt account to be known as the "opioid stewardship fund."

(b) Monies in the opioid stewardship fund shall be kept separate and shall not be commingled with any other monies in the custody of the department.

(c) The opioid stewardship fund shall consist of monies appropriated for the purpose of such account, monies transferred to such account pursuant to law, contributions consisting of promises or grants of any money or property of any kind or value, or any other thing of value, including grants or other financial assistance from any agency of government and monies required by the provisions of this chapter or any other law to be paid into or credited to this account.

(d) Monies of the opioid stewardship fund shall be available to provide opioid treatment, recovery, prevention, education services, and other related programs, subject to appropriation by the general assembly.

(e) The budget officer is hereby authorized to create restricted receipt accounts entitled “opioid stewardship fund allocation” in any department or agency of state government wherein monies from the opioid stewardship fund are appropriated by the general assembly for the programmatic purposes set forth in subsection (d) of this section.

SECTION 2. Sections 27-13.1-2 and 27-13.1-7 of the General Laws in Chapter 27-13.1 entitled “Examinations” are hereby amended to read as follows:

1 **27-13.1-2. Definitions.**

2 The following terms, as used in this chapter, shall have the respective meanings hereinafter
3 set forth:

4 (1) "Company" means a person engaging in or proposing or attempting to engage in any
5 transaction or kind of insurance or surety business and any person or group of persons who may
6 otherwise be subject to the administrative, regulatory or taxing authority of the director;

7 (2) "Department" means the department of business regulation;

8 (3) "Director" means the director of the department of business regulation of this state or
9 his or her designee;

10 (4) "Examiner" means an individual or firm having been authorized by the director to
11 conduct an examination or financial analysis under this chapter;

12 (5) "Insurer" means any insurance company doing business in this state; ~~and~~

13 (6) "Person" means an individual, aggregation of individuals, trust, association, partnership
14 or corporation, or any affiliate thereof; and

15 (7) "Pre-examination analysis," as used in this chapter, means a process whereby the
16 department collects and analyzes information, including form complaints, filed forms, surveys,
17 reports and other sources in order to identify policies of or practices by or on behalf of a company
18 or a person subject to the jurisdiction of the office of the health insurance commissioner which may
19 pose a potential direct or indirect harm to consumers or that may be in violation of state or federal
20 laws or regulations.

21 **27-13.1-7. Cost of examinations.**

22 (a) The total cost of the pre-examination analyses and the examinations shall be borne by
23 the examined companies and shall include the following expenses:

24 (1) One hundred fifty percent (150%) of the total salaries and benefits paid to the examining
25 personnel of the banking and insurance division engaged in pre-examination analyses and those
26 examinations less any salary reimbursements;

27 (2) All reasonable technology costs related to the examination process. Technology costs
28 shall include the actual cost of software and hardware utilized in the examination process and the
29 cost of training examination personnel in the proper use of the software or hardware;

30 (3) All necessary and reasonable education and training costs incurred by the state to
31 maintain the proficiency and competence of the examining personnel. All these costs shall be
32 incurred in accordance with appropriate state of Rhode Island regulations, guidelines and
33 procedures.

(b) Expenses incurred pursuant to subsections (a)(2) and (a)(3) of this section shall be allocated equally to each company domiciled in Rhode Island no more frequently than annually and shall not exceed an annual average assessment of three thousand five hundred dollars (\$3,500) per company for any given three (3) calendar year period. Except as provided in R.I. Gen. Laws § 27-13.1-9(b), All revenues collected pursuant to this section shall be deposited as general revenues. That assessment shall be in addition to any taxes and fees payable to the state.

SECTION 3. Chapter 27-13.1 of the General Laws entitled "Examinations" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

27-13.1-9. Health Insurance Examination Costs and Health Insurance Examination Cost Recovery Account.

(a) There is hereby created in the general fund of the state and housed within the budget of the department of business regulation a restricted receipt account entitled "Health Insurance Regulation and System Planning Cost Recovery." All funds in the account shall be utilized by the office of the health insurance commissioner to support the purposes of this chapter.

(b) Notwithstanding the provision in R.I. Gen. Law § 27-13.1-7(b), all revenues collected by the office of the health insurance commissioner or at the direction of the health insurance commissioner pursuant to R.I. Gen. Law § 27-13.1-7(a)(1) in connection with pre-examination analyses and examinations shall be deposited in the restricted receipt account created by subsection (a).

SECTION 4. Section 35-1.1-5 of the General Laws in Chapter 35-1.1 entitled, "Office of Management and Budget" is hereby amended to read as follows:

35-1.1-5. Federal grants management.

(a) The controller shall be responsible for managing federal grant applications; providing administrative assistance to agencies regarding reporting requirements; providing technical assistance; and approving agreements with federal agencies pursuant to § 35-1-1. The controller shall:

(1) Establish state goals and objectives for maximizing the utilization of federal aid programs;

(2) Ensure that the state establishes and maintains statewide federally mandated grants management processes and procedures as mandated by the federal Office of Management and Budget;

(3) Promulgate procedures and guidelines for all state departments, agencies, advisory councils, instrumentalities of the state, and public higher education institutions covering applications for federal grants;

1 (4) Require, upon request, any state department, agency, advisory council, instrumentality
2 of the state, or public higher education institution receiving a grant of money from the federal
3 government to submit a report to the controller of expenditures and program measures for the fiscal
4 period in question;

5 (5) Ensure state departments and agencies adhere to the requirements of § 42-41-5
6 regarding legislative appropriation authority and delegation thereof;

7 (6) Manage and oversee the disbursements of federal funds in accordance with § 35-6-42;

8 (7) Prepare the statewide cost allocation plan and serve as the monitoring agency to ensure
9 that state departments and agencies are working within the guidelines contained in the plan; and

10 (8) Provide technical assistance to agencies to ensure resolution and closure of all single
11 state audit findings and recommendations made by the auditor general related to federal funding.

12 (b) The division of accounts and control shall serve as the state clearinghouse for purposes
13 of coordinating federal grants, aid, and assistance applied for and/or received by any state
14 department, agency, advisory council, or instrumentality of the state. Any state department, agency,
15 advisory council, or instrumentality of the state applying for federal funds, aids, loans, or grants
16 shall file a summary notification of the intended application with the controller.

17 (1) When as a condition to receiving federal funds, the state is required to match the federal
18 funds, a statement shall be filed with the notice of intent or summary of the application stating:

19 (i) The amount and source of state funds needed for matching purposes;

20 (ii) The length of time the matching funds shall be required;

21 (iii) The growth of the program;

22 (iv) How the program will be evaluated;

23 (v) What action will be necessary should the federal funds be canceled, curtailed, or
24 restricted; and

25 (vi) Any other financial and program management data required by the office or by law.

26 (2) Except as otherwise required, any application submitted by an executive agency for
27 federal funds, aids, loans, or grants which will require state matching or replacement funds at the
28 time of application or at any time in the future, must be approved by the director of the office of
29 management and budget, or his or her designated agents, prior to its filing with the appropriate
30 federal agency. Any application submitted by an executive agency for federal funds, aids, loans, or
31 grants which will require state matching or replacement funds at the time of application or at any
32 time in the future, when funds have not been appropriated for that express purpose, must be
33 approved by the general assembly in accordance with § 42-41-5. When the general assembly is not

1 in session, the application shall be reported to and reviewed by the director pursuant to rules and
2 regulations promulgated by the director.

3 (3) When any federal funds, aids, loans, or grants are received by any state department,
4 agency, advisory council, or instrumentality of the state, a report of the amount of funds received
5 shall be filed with the office; and this report shall specify the amount of funds that would reimburse
6 an agency for indirect costs, as provided for under federal requirements.

7 (4) The controller may refuse to issue approval for the disbursement of any state or federal
8 funds from the state treasury as the result of any application that is not approved as provided by
9 this section, or in regard to which the statement or reports required by this section were not filed.

10 (5) The controller shall be responsible for the orderly administration of this section and for
11 issuing the appropriate guidelines and regulations from each source of funds used.

12 (c) There is hereby created in the general fund of the state and housed within the budget of
13 the department of administration a restricted receipt account entitled "Grants Management System
14 Administration." This account shall be used to fund centralized services relating to managing
15 federal grant applications; providing administrative assistance to agencies regarding reporting
16 requirements; providing technical assistance; and approving agreements with federal agencies
17 pursuant to § 35-1-1. Every state department and agency, as defined in R.I. General Laws § 35-1-
18 4, which receives federal assistance funds shall set aside an amount of the funds received equal to
19 a percentage as determined annually by the state controller multiplied by federal funds received.
20 All funds set aside and designated to be used for grants management shall be deposited into the
21 restricted receipt account established in this subsection.

22 SECTION 5. Section 35-3-24 of the General Laws in Chapter 35-3 entitled "State Budget"
23 is hereby amended to read as follows:

24 **35-3-24. Control of state spending.**

25 (a) All department and agency heads and their employees are responsible for ensuring that
26 financial obligations and expenditures for which they have responsibility do not exceed amounts
27 appropriated and are spent in accordance with state laws.

28 (b) Persons with the authority to obligate the state contractually for goods and services
29 shall be designated in writing by department and agency heads.

30 (c) In the event of an obligation, encumbrance, or expenditure in excess of general revenue
31 amounts appropriated, the department or agency head with oversight responsibility shall make a
32 written determination of the amount and the cause of the overobligation or overexpenditure, the
33 person(s) responsible, and corrective actions taken to prevent reoccurrence. The plan of corrective
34 actions contained within the report shall detail an appropriate plan to include, but not limited to,

1 such issues as the implementation of waiting lists, pro-rata reduction in payments and changes in
2 eligibility criteria as methods to address the shortfall. The report will be filed within thirty (30)
3 days of the discovery of the overobligation or overexpenditure with the budget officer, the
4 controller, the auditor general, and the chairpersons of the house and senate finance committees.

5 (d) In the event a quarterly report demonstrates an obligation, encumbrance, or expenditure
6 in excess of [general revenue](#) amounts appropriated [in total to the department](#), the department or
7 agency head with oversight responsibility shall file monthly budget reports with the chairpersons
8 of the house and senate finance committees for the remainder of the fiscal year. The monthly budget
9 reports shall detail steps taken towards corrective actions and other measures to bring spending in
10 line with appropriations. In addition, the budget officer and controller shall ensure that the
11 department's or agency's obligations, encumbrances, and expenditures for the remainder of the
12 fiscal year result in the department or agency ending the fiscal year within amounts appropriated.

13 (e) The controller shall not authorize payments [from general revenue](#) for additional staff,
14 contracts, or purchases [beyond service levels provided in the previous fiscal year or one-time](#)
15 [purchases of equipment or supplies](#) for any department or agency not projected to end a fiscal year
16 within amounts appropriated unless [the payments are](#) necessitated by immediate health and safety
17 reasons [or to be consistent with a corrective action plan](#), which shall be documented upon discovery
18 and reported, along with anticipated or actual expenditures, to the chairpersons of the house and
19 senate finance committees within fifteen (15) days.

20 (f) A state employee who has knowingly and willingly encumbered, obligated, or
21 authorized the expenditure of state funds in excess of amounts appropriated for those purposes or
22 entered into contracts without proper authorization may be placed on disciplinary suspension
23 without pay for up to thirty (30) days in accordance with § 36-4-36.

24 (g) A state employee who knowingly, willfully, and repeatedly authorizes actions resulting
25 in encumbrances or spending of state funds in excess of amounts appropriated may be fined up to
26 one thousand dollars (\$1,000) and/or terminated from employment.

27 (h) Upon receipt of any budgetary information indicating an obligation, encumbrance, or
28 expenditure in excess of the amounts appropriated, the chairperson of the house or senate finance
29 committee may request a written report to be submitted by the director of administration within ten
30 (10) calendar days. The report shall indicate if the obligation, encumbrance, or expenditure in
31 excess of the amounts appropriated resulted in any disciplinary action or other penalty in
32 accordance with subsection (f) or (g) of this section. If not, the report shall explain why no
33 disciplinary action or other penalty was imposed in accordance with subsection (f) or (g).

SECTION 6. Sections 35-4-22.1, 35-4-22.2 and 35-4-27 of the General Laws in Chapter 35-4 entitled "State Funds" are hereby amended to read as follows:

35-4-22.1. Legislative appropriation authority.

(a) An appropriation is a statutory enactment by the general assembly authorizing the withdrawal of money from the State treasury. An enactment by the general assembly which only authorizes, specifies, or otherwise provides that funds may be used for a particular purpose is not an appropriation.

~~(b)~~ (b) No agency shall establish new programs, or expand existing programs, including any program involving nonstate monies, beyond the scope of those already established, recognized, and appropriated for by the general assembly until the program and the availability of money is submitted by the agency to the budget officer for recommendation to the general assembly.

~~(c)~~ (c) No state agency may make expenditures of any restricted or special revenue funds, whether these monies are received prior to expenditure or as reimbursement, unless these expenditures are made pursuant to specific appropriations of the general assembly.

(d) Additional general revenue shall be deemed to be appropriated in order to:

(i) Comply with a court order.

(ii) Respond to a declared state of emergency.

(iii) Finance programs covered under the caseload estimating conference process set forth in chapter 35-17 up to the officially adopted estimates in the current fiscal year when the current appropriations act does not meet the revised estimate subject to the following conditions:

(1) Appropriations are made up to current fiscal year revenue availability as agreed to in the revenue estimating conference process.

(2) If there is less revenue availability than the additional caseload need, Medical Assistance and federally mandated programs are prioritized for additional appropriations and the remainder of the additional availability is proportionally assigned to the remaining caseload programs.

(e) If the general assembly enacts changes to the current year appropriations act, those changes shall override subdivision (iii) of subsection (d) of this section.

35-4-22.2. Use of restricted or special revenue funds.

(a) Any restricted or special revenue funds which are received by a state agency which is not otherwise appropriated to that state agency by the annual appropriation acts of the regular session of the general assembly are hereby appropriated for that state agency for the purpose set forth, except that no expenditure shall be made from and no obligation shall be incurred against any restricted receipts or special revenue fund which has not been previously appropriated or

1 reappropriated or approved by the governor, the speaker of the house, and the president of the
2 senate, until that authorization has been transmitted to the state agency to make expenditure
3 therefrom.

4 (b) State agencies desiring the governor's approval to expend or obligate receipts not
5 appropriated or reappropriated by the general assembly in the annual appropriation act or
6 supplemental appropriation act shall forward a request to the state budget officer, who shall forward
7 a copy to the speaker of the house and the president of the senate.

8 (c) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, the budget officer is hereby authorized to
9 create restricted receipt accounts within the budget of any state agency to account for the receipt
10 and expenditure of either privately donated funds from individuals or corporate entities, funds
11 received from any nonprofit charitable organization qualifying for exemption under section 501 (c)
12 (3) of the internal revenue code, the proceeds of a multistate settlement administered by the office
13 of the attorney general, and funds received pursuant to a contract or memorandum of agreement
14 with a department of another state that are restricted to a specific, time-limited purpose.
15 Expenditures from these accounts shall remain subject to the provisions of §§ 35-4-22, 35-4-22.1,
16 35-4-22.2 and 35-4-27.

17 (d) Upon the directive of the controller, with the consent of the auditor general, the budget
18 officer is hereby authorized to convert any escrow liability account to a restricted receipt account
19 whenever such conversion has been deemed prudent and appropriate by both the auditor general
20 and the controller according to generally accepted governmental accounting principles and/or
21 specific pronouncements of the governmental accounting standards board (GASB).

22 **35-4-27. Indirect cost recoveries on restricted receipt accounts.**

23 Indirect cost recoveries of ten percent (10%) of cash receipts shall be transferred from all
24 restricted-receipt accounts, to be recorded as general revenues in the general fund. However, there
25 shall be no transfer from cash receipts with restrictions received exclusively: (1) From contributions
26 from non-profit charitable organizations; (2) From the assessment of indirect cost-recovery rates
27 on federal grant funds; or (3) Through transfers from state agencies to the department of
28 administration for the payment of debt service. These indirect cost recoveries shall be applied to all
29 accounts, unless prohibited by federal law or regulation, court order, or court settlement. The
30 following restricted receipt accounts shall not be subject to the provisions of this section:

31 Executive Office of Health and Human Services

32 Organ Transplant Fund

33 HIV Care Grant Drug Rebates

34 Health System Transformation Project

1 [Health Spending Transparency and Containment Account](#)
2 [Adult Use Marijuana Program Licensing](#)
3 Department of Human Services
4 Veterans' home – Restricted account
5 Veterans' home – Resident benefits
6 Pharmaceutical Rebates Account
7 Demand Side Management Grants
8 Veteran's Cemetery Memorial Fund
9 Donations – New Veterans' Home Construction
10 Department of Health
11 Pandemic medications and equipment account
12 Miscellaneous Donations/Grants from Non-Profits
13 State Loan Repayment Match
14 Healthcare Information Technology
15 [Adult Use Marijuana Program](#)
16 Department of Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities and Hospitals
17 Eleanor Slater non-Medicaid third-party payor account
18 Hospital Medicare Part D Receipts
19 RICLAS Group Home Operations
20 [Adult Use Marijuana Program](#)
21 Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
22 Emergency and public communication access account
23 Department of Environmental Management
24 National heritage revolving fund
25 Environmental response fund II
26 Underground storage tanks registration fees
27 De Coppet Estate Fund
28 Rhode Island Historical Preservation and Heritage Commission
29 Historic preservation revolving loan fund
30 Historic Preservation loan fund – Interest revenue
31 Department of Public Safety
32 E-911 Uniform Emergency Telephone System
33 Forfeited property – Retained
34 Forfeitures – Federal

1 Forfeited property – Gambling
2 Donation – Polygraph and Law Enforcement Training
3 Rhode Island State Firefighter's League Training Account
4 Fire Academy Training Fees Account
5 [Adult Use Marijuana Program](#)
6 Attorney General
7 Forfeiture of property
8 Federal forfeitures
9 Attorney General multi-state account
10 Forfeited property – Gambling
11 Department of Administration
12 OER Reconciliation Funding
13 Health Insurance Market Integrity Fund
14 RI Health Benefits Exchange
15 Information Technology Investment Fund
16 Restore and replacement – Insurance coverage
17 Convention Center Authority rental payments
18 Investment Receipts – TANS
19 OPEB System Restricted Receipt Account
20 Car Rental Tax/Surcharge-Warwick Share
21 [Grants Management System Administration](#)
22 Executive Office of Commerce
23 Housing Resources Commission Restricted Account
24 [Housing Production Fund](#)
25 Department of Revenue
26 DMV Modernization Project
27 Jobs Tax Credit Redemption Fund
28 Legislature
29 Audit of federal assisted programs
30 [Adult Use Marijuana Program](#)
31 [Marijuana Cash Use Surcharge](#)
32 Department of Children, Youth and Families
33 Children's Trust Accounts – SSI
34 Military Staff

1 RI Military Family Relief Fund
2 RI National Guard Counterdrug Program
3 Treasury
4 Admin. Expenses – State Retirement System
5 Retirement – Treasury Investment Options
6 Defined Contribution – Administration - RR
7 Violent Crimes Compensation – Refunds
8 Treasury Research Fellowship
9 Business Regulation
10 Banking Division Reimbursement Account
11 Office of the Health Insurance Commissioner Reimbursement Account
12 [Health Insurance Regulation and System Planning Cost Recovery](#)
13 Securities Division Reimbursement Account
14 Commercial Licensing and Racing and Athletics Division Reimbursement Account
15 Insurance Division Reimbursement Account
16 [Adult Use Marijuana Program](#)
17 Historic Preservation Tax Credit Account
18 Judiciary
19 Arbitration Fund Restricted Receipt Account
20 Third-Party Grants
21 RI Judiciary Technology Surcharge Account
22 Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
23 Statewide Student Transportation Services Account
24 School for the Deaf Fee-for-Service Account
25 School for the Deaf – School Breakfast and Lunch Program
26 Davies Career and Technical School Local Education Aid Account
27 Davies – National School Breakfast & Lunch Program
28 School Construction Services
29 Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner
30 Higher Education and Industry Center
31 Department of Labor and Training
32 Job Development Fund
33 [Rhode Island Council on the Arts](#)
34 [Governors' Portrait Donation Fund](#)

1 SECTION 7. Section 39-18.1-5 of the General Laws in Chapter 39-18.1 entitled
2 “Transportation Investment and Debt Reduction Act of 2011” is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **39-18.1-5. Allocation of funds.**

4 (a) The monies in the highway maintenance fund to be directed to the department of
5 transportation pursuant to § 39-18.1-4(b)(1) – (b)(3) shall be allocated through the transportation
6 improvement program process to provide the state match for federal transportation funds, in place
7 of borrowing, as approved by the state planning council. The expenditure of moneys in the highway
8 maintenance fund shall only be authorized for projects that appear in the state's transportation
9 improvement program.

10 (b) Provided, however, that beginning with fiscal year 2015 and annually thereafter, the
11 department of transportation will allocate necessary funding to programs that are designed to
12 eliminate structural deficiencies of the state's bridge, road, and maintenance systems and
13 infrastructure.

14 (c) Provided, further, that beginning July 1, 2015, five percent (5%) of available proceeds
15 in the Rhode Island highway maintenance account shall be allocated annually to the Rhode Island
16 public transit authority for operating expenditures.

17 (d) Provided, further, that from July 1, 2017, and annually thereafter, in addition to the
18 amount above, the Rhode Island public transit authority shall receive an amount of not less than
19 five million dollars (\$5,000,000) each fiscal year, except for the period July 1, 2019 through June
20 30, 2022 during which such amount or a portion thereof may come from federal coronavirus relief
21 funds.

22 (e) Provided, further, that the Rhode Island public transit authority shall convene a
23 coordinating council consisting of those state agencies responsible for meeting the needs of low-
24 income seniors and persons with disabilities, along with those stakeholders that the authority deems
25 appropriate and are necessary to inform, develop, and implement the federally required coordinated
26 public transit human services transportation plan.

27 The council shall develop, as part of the state's federally required plan, recommendations
28 for the appropriate and sustainable funding of the free-fare program for low-income seniors and
29 persons with disabilities, while maximizing the use of federal funds available to support the
30 transportation needs of this population.

31 The council shall report these recommendations to the governor, the speaker of the house
32 of representatives, and the president of the senate no later than November 1, 2018.

33 SECTION 8. Section 42-75-13 of the General Laws in Chapter 42-75 entitled “Council on
34 the Arts” is hereby amended to read as follows:

1 **42-75-13. Appropriation.**

2 (a) During the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, the state lottery division within the
3 department of revenue shall conduct, pursuant to chapter 61 of title 42, an instant game to be known
4 as the "Arts Lottery Game." The net revenue from the first three (3) months of the running of the
5 "Arts Lottery Game" shall be deposited in a restricted-revenue account to be used by the Rhode
6 Island Council on the Arts for the support and improvement of the arts in this state. The provisions
7 of this section shall prevail over any inconsistent provisions of chapter 61 of title 42.

8 (b) The Rhode Island Council on the Arts shall deposit any funds received from the Rhode
9 Island Foundation in a restricted-receipt account to be used for the support and improvement of the
10 arts in this state. All such funds deposited shall be exempt from the indirect cost-recovery
11 provisions of § 35-24-27.

12 (c) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, there is hereby created in the general fund of
13 the state and housed within the budget of the Rhode Island Council on the Arts a restricted receipt
14 account entitled "Governors' Portrait Donation Fund." This account shall be used to record all
15 receipts and expenditures of donations made for the purpose of supplementing the state
16 appropriation for the purchase of a governor's portrait as set forth in R.I. Gen. Laws 37-8-9, and
17 for other related expenses as deemed appropriate by the Rhode Island Council on the Arts.

18 SECTION 9. This article shall take effect upon passage.